

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00

PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 AID-05 ARAE-00 MC-02 SSC-01 PC-05 SY-05 A-01

OPR-02 USSS-00 IO-10 /081 W
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FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9826

INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

CRESMG/AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE 0941

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

USCINCSO

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 TEGUCIGALPA 1600

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BBAK, PINT, HO

SUBJ: DECLARATION OF ARMED FORCES REMOVING GENERAL LOPEZ

REF: TEGUCIGALPA 1584

1. THE FOLLOWING IS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF THE
APRIL 22 DECLARATION OF THE HONDURAN ARMED FORCES WHICH
REMOVED GENERAL OSWALDO LOPEZ ARELLANO AS CHIEF OF
STATE AND REPLACED HIM WITH COLONEL JUAN ALBERTO
MELGAR:

"THE ARMED FORCES OF HONDURAS, RECOGNIZING PUBLIC OPINION
IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES THAT AFFLICT THE COUNTRY,
AND IN FULFILLMENT OF THE PROCLAMATION OF DECEMBER 4,
1972, HAVE CONSIDERED IT IN THE URGENT AND IMMEDIATE
NATIONAL INTEREST TO INTERVENE IN THE GOVERNMENT ENTRUSTED
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TO THE SUPERIOR DEFENSE COUNCIL AND BY THE COUNCIL TO
BRIGADIER GENERAL OSWALDO LOPEZ ARELLANO ON THE ABOVE
DATE, AND RESOLVE:

1) RESTRUCTURE PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION ON THE FIRM BASIS
OF LOYALTY TO THE REPUBLIC, MORALITY, HONOR AND CAPACITY
IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING OBJECTIVES:

A) MOVE THE COUNTRY TOWARDS A REAL DEVELOPMENT IN
ACCORDANCE WITH THE NEW SOCIAL CURRENTS BY WHICH THE
WORLD COMMUNITY LIVES;

B) COMPLETE AND EXECUTE THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN WITH COORDINATED
AND HARMONIOUS PARTICIPATION OF ALL OFFICIAL, ECONOMIC AND
SOCIAL SECTOR OF THE NATION;

C) CONTINUE WITH THE DEVELOPMENT OF AGRARIAN REFORM, CON-
CEIVED AS A JUST SYSTEM, RESPECTING THE RIGHTS OF EACH
CITIZEN, AND RESPONDING TO THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF
THE GREAT MAJORITY OF THE HONDURAN PEOPLE AND THE GROWING
NECESSITY TO INCREASE PRODUCTION AND NATIONAL PRODUCTIVITY;

D) CONTINUE THE CURRENT EFFORT TO OFFER FOREIGN AND
HONDURAN INVESTORS ALL INCENTIVES AND GUARANTEES THAT ARE
INDISPENSABLE FOR THE INCREASE AND DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTIVE
ENTERPRISE, SO LONG AS THEY DO NOT DAMAGE THE HONOR AND
INALIENABLE RIGHTS OF THE HONDURAN NATION;

E) GUARANTEE AND PROTECT ALL GAINS RELATING TO SOCIAL AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THAT THE HONDURAN PEOPLE HAVE ACHIEVED;

F) GUARANTEE ADMINISTRATIVE PROBITY TO THE HONDURAN
PEOPLE AS THE GOVERNMENT NORM;

G) CREATE A FAVORABLE CLIMATE FOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE
ECONOMIC, SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND POLITICAL FIELDS, ELIMINAT-
INF INSECURITY AND SOCIAL INSTABILITY, POLITICAL AND
DYECONOMIC SECTARIANISM, THE CLASS STRUGGLE, AND IMPOSING,
ABOVE ALL, ORDER AND RESPECT FOR THE LAW;

H) CREATE A NATIONAL CONSCIOUSNESS FOR THE COMMON
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OBJECTIVES OF LIBERTY, INDEPENDENCE, SOVEREIGNTY,
TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY OF THE REPUBLIC, COMMON WELFARE
AND PROGRESS, ORDER AND RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY AND LAW,
CITIZEN RESPONSIBILITY, CONSTRUCTIVE WORK, TERRITORIAL
AND HUMAN INTEGRATION, EMPLOYMENT AND RATIONAL EXPLOITA-
TION OF NATURAL RESOURCES, RESPECT AND EXHALTATION OF THE
HISTORICAL, MORAL AND CIVIC VALUES OF OUR NATIONALITY, AND
THE REJECTION OF IDEAS THAT ARE CONFUSING, ANARCHISTIC
OR DESTRUCTIVE OF NATIONAL PATRIOTIC SENTIMENTS;

I) CONTINUE COOPERATING IN EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE ECONOMIC
INTEGRATION AND THE POLITICAL AND SOCIAL UNITY OF CENTRAL
AMERICA ON THE BASIS OF EQUITY AND LOYALTY, CONCEIVED

AS AN INSTRUMENT TO FURTHER THE WELFARE OF THE CENTRAL AMERICAN PEOPLES AND CONDITIONED ON OBTAINING FOR THE HONDURAN PEOPLE THE SAME BENEFITS RECEIVED BY OTHER CENTRAL AMERICAN PEOPLES;

J) ACHIEVE A DEFINITE AND GLOBAL SOLUTION OF THE PROBLEM EXISTING WITH THE REPUBLIC OF EL SALVADOR BASED UPON JUSTICE AND LAW;

K) CONFIRM A FOREIGN POLICY BASED ON RESPECT FOR AGREEMENTS, CONVENTIONS AND TREATIES, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE SPIRIT OF JUSTICE AND RECIPROCITY OF CURRENT NORMS OF INTERNATIONAL LAW AS WELL AS ADHESION TO AND THE STRENGTHENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF WHICH HONDURAS FORMS A PART;

L) ENCOURAGE A DIALOGUE WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL SECTORS FORMING PUBLIC OPINION OF THE NATION SO THAT, WITH NEW AND BALANCED IDEAS, THE WAY WILL BE OPEN FOR THE INCLUSION AND INTEGRATION OF ALL HONDURANS IN THE SEARCH FOR THE AUTHENTIC NATIONAL INTEREST;

M) RETURN THE COUNTRY TO A CONSTITUTIONAL REGIME WHICH RESPECTS AUTHENTIC VALUES AND CITIZEN'S VIRTUES, THAT ENCOURAGES TRANQUILITY AND SOCIAL ORDER, THAT STIMULATES PROGRESS AND THE HAPPINESS OF THE PEOPLE, THAT FORTIFIES THE REPUBLIC, THAT RESPECTS THE CITIZEN'S RIGHTS AND DUTIES, THAT PRESERVES AND EXALTS MORAL, CIVIC AND UNCLASSIFIED

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HISTORICAL VALUES THAT ARE FUNDAMENTAL TO OUR NATIONALITY, AND THAT CREATE AN ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH THE HONDURAN PEOPLE CAN BECOME SOCIALLY INTEGRATED.

2) TO ATTAIN SUCH OBJECTIVES, THE ARMED FORCES OF HONDURAS WILL CONTINUE EXERCISING THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT FOR THE

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O 221835Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9827

INFO DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR IMMEDIATE

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NECESSARY PERIOD, UNTIL POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL CIRCUMSTANCES IN COUNTRY FAVOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OUTLINED CONSTITUTIONAL REGIME, THE CAUSE AND ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF THE INTERVENTION OF THE ARMED FORCES IN THE NATIONAL PUBLIC LIFE SINCE DECEMBER 4, 1972.

3) IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE THE FOREGOING, THE SUPERIOR DEFENSE COUNCIL OF THE ARMED FORCES NAMES COLONEL JUAN ALBERTO MELGAR CASTRO, CHIEF OF STATE, IN SUBSTITUTION OF BRIGADIER GENERAL OSWALDO LOPEZ ARELLANO.

4) GIVES ALL ITS SUPPORT TO THE INVESTIGATING COMMITTEE NAMED BY DECREE NO. 214 OF APRIL 9, SO THAT IN THE SHORTEST TIME POSSIBLE THE TRUTH OR FALSITY OF THE ACCUSATIONS BY THE WALL STREET JOURNAL AGAINST HIGH OFFICIALS OF LOPEZ' GOVERNMENT BE KNOWN.

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5) FINALLY, THE ARMED FORCES REITERATES THEIR PERMANENT CONCERN ABOUT THE PROBLEMS THAT AFFLICT THE HONDURAN PEOPLE AND PLEDGE THEIR MAXIMUM EFFORT TOWARD THEIR SOLUTION. THEREFORE, THEY DECLARE:

A) THAT THE OBJECTIVES, RESOLUTIONS AND PRINCIPLES ENUMERATED IN THIS DOCUMENT CONSTITUTE MERELY AN OUTLINE OF THE POLICY THAT THE MILITARY GOVERNMENT SHOULD FOLLOW. THE FULFILLMENT OF THESE OBJECTIVES AND THE REALIZATION OF THESE PROJECTS WILL INEVITABLY HAVE TO ADAPT THEMSELVES TO THE OPINIONS, VARIATIONS, AND NECESSITIES THAT CONTINUE TO DEVELOP NATIONALLY AND INTERNATIONALLY;

B) THAT THE MISSION THUS ASSUMED REPRESENTS AN EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TASK THAT REQUIRES COURAGE, RESPONSIBILITY AND DECISIVENESS, BUT NONETHELESS, THE CHALLENGE OF HISTORY IS ACCEPTED IN THE SPIRIT OF SACRIFICE AND THE WILL TO TRIUMPH, AS THE ONLY GUIDE TO RESTORE THE GOOD NAME OF

THE HOMELAND AND TO START THE PEOPLE ALONG A BETTER PATH
TOWARD PROGRESS AND WELL-BEING;

C) THAT, AWARE OF THIS HIGH RESPONSIBILITY, AND OF THE
UNDERSTANDING OF THE HONDURAN PEOPLE, WE ASK THE DECIDED AND
UNRESTRICTED SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE AND DECLARE THAT THE
MILITARY GOVERNMENT ON THIS DATE IS BEING RESTRUCTURED, HAS
NO OBLIGATIONS OTHER THAN THAT OF SERVING THE COUNTRY."

2. COMMENT: THE PLATFORM CONTAINED IN THE DECLARATION
GENERALLY SUPPORTS THE MEASURES TAKEN BY THE LOPEZ
GOVERNMENT. IN FORM, IT IS SIMILAR TO THE DECLARATION
WHICH WAS ISSUED ON DECEMBER 4, 1972 WHEN PRESIDENT CRUZ
WAS OVERTHROWN. ONE MAJOR DIFFERENCE IS THAT THE ARMED
FORCES' DECLARATION DOES NOT MENTION A SPECIFIC PERIOD THE
ARMED FORCES INTEND TO REMAIN IN POWER, BUT HAVE INCLUDED
A RETURN TO CONSTITUTIONAL RULE AMONG THEIR OBJECTIVES.
SANCHEZ

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